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Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 135280

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ORIGIN H-03

INFO OCT-01 AID-01 RSC-01 SS-07 DPW-01 NSC-06 ISO-00 EA-07

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DRAFTED BY H:MTHOREN
APPROVED BY H:ELKRIZEK
D/PW:FSIEVERTS (SUBS)
EA/VN:RHWENZEL
SCA:FSMITH (INFO)
---------- 008390
P 242039Z JUN 74
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY SAIGON

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CODEL MONTGOMERY

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS:OREP
SUBJECT:CODEL MONTGOMERY

REF: STATE 130019

1. FOR PARIS AND VIENTIANE: CODEL SENT FOLLOWING
COMMERCIAL CABLES TO DRV EMBASSIES IN PARIS AND VIENTIANE
JUNE 18. TO PARIS: QUOTE. I WILL BE IN VIENTIANE, LAOS
JULY 4 AND 5 AND HOPE TO CALL ON YOUR AMBASSADOR THERE TO
REQUEST VISA TO TRAVEL TO HANOI TO DISCUSS PROBLEM OF
MISSING IN ACTION AMERICAN SERVICEMEN.
WOULD BE GRATEFUL IF YOU COULD INFORM YOUR GOVERNMENT AND
APPROVE VISA FOR ME TO RECEIVE IN VIENTIANE. UNQUOTE.
TO VIENTIANE: QUOTE. I WILL BE IN VIENTIANE, LAOS JULY 4
AND 5 AND HAVE CABLED YOUR AMBASSADOR IN PARIS THAT I HOPE
TO CALL YOU IN VIENTIANE TO REQUEST VISA TO TRAVEL TO HANOI
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PAGE 02 STATE 135280

TO DISCUSS PROBLEM OF MISSING IN ACTION AMERICAN SERVICE-

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

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MEN. WOULD BE GRATEFUL FOR YOUR ASSISTANCE IF YOUR GOV-
ERNMENT APPROVES VISA TO BE RECEIVED IN VIENTIANE. UNQUOTE.
CODEL HAS NOT YET RECEIVED A REPLY.

2. FYI: CODEL ASKED IF EMBASSIES PARIS AND VIENTIANE
COULD FOLLOW UP WITH DRV EMBASSIES ON HIS VISA APPLICATION.
DEPARTMENT OFFICER ADVISED CODEL THIS WOULD BE UNPRODUCTIVE
IN OUR JUDGMENT; THAT HE WOULD HAVE A BETTER CHANCE OF
SUCCESS IF HE KEPT HIS APPLICATION INDEPENDENT OF
EMBASSY/DEPARTMENT. END FYI.

3. FOR SAIGON: CODEL WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY ASSISTANCE
IN ARRANGING PRIVATE, UNPUBLICIZED MEETING WITH FRED RITTS
PRIVATE U.S. CITIZEN WHO HAS BEEN TRYING TO TRACE MIAS.

4. FYI: MR. RITTS WAS INTERVIEWED BY CBS NEWS REPORTER
HANEY HOWELL JUNE 20. RITTS STATED AS A QUOTE PATRIOTIC
AMERICAN UNQTE HE WAS HELPING LOOK FOR BODIES OF AMERI-
CANS AND QTE WAS NOT IN IT FOR THE MONEY UNQTE. JCRC
COMMANDER BRIG. GEN. ULATOSKI BRIEFED CODEL JUNE 24 AND
PROVIDED BACKGROUND ON PROBLEM OF PRIVATEERING IN CASUALTY
RESOLUTION. CODEL ACCEPTED POINT AND SAID HE WANTED TO
MAKE PERSONAL CONTACT WITH MR. RITTS. END FYI. KISSINGER

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